

REMARKS

Applicant has submitted an Abstract on a separate sheet attached hereto.

35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been amended to rectify the rejections. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102 REJECTIONS

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by French '193. Claims 1,3, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Harms '429. Claims 1,2,4 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fukasawa. Applicant has amended claim 1 which now recites that the tread elements are triangular in shape. None of the cited references show or describe tread elements which are triangular in shape. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the 102 rejections be withdrawn with respect to amended claim 1 and the dependent claims.

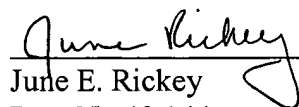
35 U.S.C. §103 REJECTIONS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Rooney in view of Great Britain '335 and French '193. Applicant has amended claim 1 which now recites that the tread elements are triangular in shape. None of the cited references teach or suggest tread elements which are triangular in shape. For the above-cited reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the 103 rejections be withdrawn with respect to amended claim 1 and the dependent claims.

New claims 9-16 have been added which are directed to novel features of the invention.

In light of this amendment, all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application are allowable. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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